

DIRECTIONS: Read each selection and answer the questions that follow.



This story is about a boy named Jordan. He wants to buy a new bicycle, but must earn money for it first. Now you will read about how Jordan faces his fear to find a job and earn money for his bicycle. Then answer the questions that follow.

Anything for the Bike

- 1 Mrs. Radcliff wasn't really as mean as everyone said. At least that's what Jordan kept telling himself on the way to ring the doorbell at the scariest-looking house on the street. He had picked Mrs. Radcliff's house because he figured no one else would come here to ask for work. Looking at the house, Jordan decided that Mrs. Radcliff could use his help. The place was a mess.
-

1. Why does Jordan go to Mrs. Radcliff's house?

- A.** He wants to see whether she is really a mean and scary person.
- B.** He thinks no one else will ask her for work.
- C.** He thinks it would be nice to meet Mrs. Radcliff.
-



2 As he got closer to Mrs. Radcliff's house, Jordan started thinking about the other jobs his grandmother said he could do: mow lawns, rake leaves, plant flowers. He thought about turning around and walking in the opposite direction, but he knew that the bicycle he wanted cost a lot of money. He told himself that he should at least talk to Mrs. Radcliff.

2. Jordan wants to work for Mrs. Radcliff to —

- F. prove he is not afraid of her
 - G. get to know her better
 - H. make money to buy a bike
-

3 The gate into Mrs. Radcliff's yard opened with a scary squeak. "That's all right," Jordan said to himself as he felt his heart beating faster. "I can fix that."

4 The path leading to the house was overgrown with weeds. "That's O.K.," Jordan thought. "I can pull those weeds."

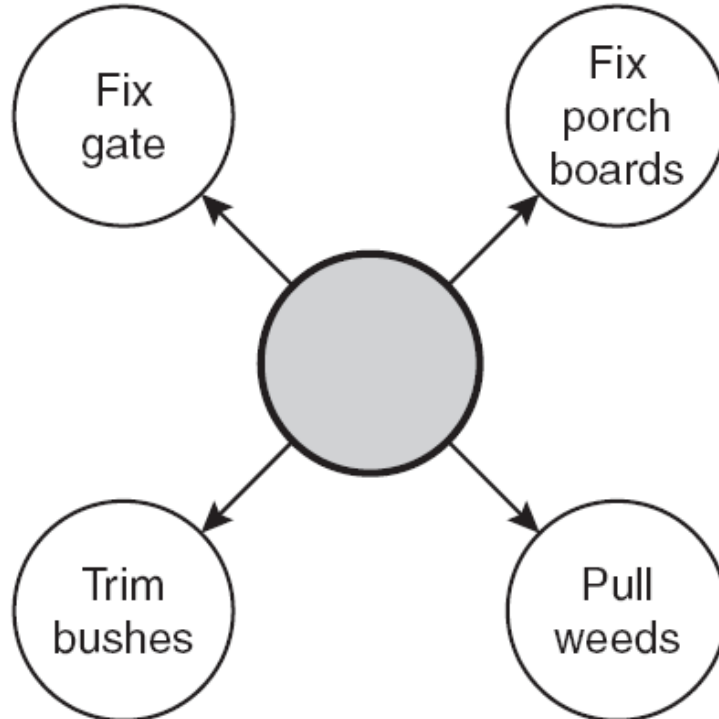
3. Why does Jordan believe that Mrs. Radcliff needs help around her house?

- A. His friends say she never works outside.
 - B. He has seen what her yard looks like.
 - C. His grandmother told him she did.
-



- 5 When Jordan climbed the stairs up to the front porch, the second step creaked. He stopped and thought about leaving. Instead, he whispered, "That's O.K., too. Maybe I can fix the boards. I'll do anything for the bike. Anything for the bike."
-

4. Look at the following web of information from the story.



Which would be the best title for this web?

- F. The Best Jobs for Earning Money
- G. Possible Jobs at Mrs. Radcliff 's House
- H. Jobs his Grandmother Suggests
-

GO ON 

6 Taking a deep breath, Jordan knocked on the old door. When he heard rustling inside, he took a step back. "If I'm really quick," Jordan thought, "I can be gone before the door opens." But the doorknob rattled, and Jordan's feet seemed to be frozen on the porch. The door opened just a little, and somebody said, "Yes?"

5. When Jordan's feet are described as "frozen on the porch" in the paragraph above , this means he —

- A. is very cold
 - B. is afraid to move
 - C. runs very slowly
-

7 Jordan was afraid of what he would see. The kids told stories about Mrs. Radcliff. It was said that no one came to see her and that she never went out. As the yard inside the fence had grown wilder, so had the stories. Soon the kids had begun talking about dogs and cats disappearing and strange lights being on at all hours of the night.

6. Paragraph 7 is mainly about —

- F. why Jordan thinks Mrs. Radcliff's yard has gotten worse
- G. what Jordan has heard about Mrs. Radcliff
- H. the bicycle that Jordan wants to buy



7. Why does Jordan have doubts about going to Mrs. Radcliff's?

- A.** He has heard scary stories about her.
 - B.** She knows who his grandmother is.
 - C.** He knows that she has children who can help her.
-

8 The door opened all the way. Jordan swallowed when he saw that shadows covered the woman's face. "Yes?" she said again.

9 Jordan had trouble moving his mouth. Finally he licked his lips and cleared his throat. "My name is Jordan Wells," he said in a shaky voice. "I live with my grandma down the street. I was wondering whether you had any work I could do around here."

8. Why did Jordan have trouble talking?

- F.** He is nervous to meet Mrs. Radcliff.
 - G.** He is tired from his walk.
 - H.** He is very shy.
-

10 "You're Lillian Wells's grandson," Mrs. Radcliff said in a quiet voice. Then she turned her head toward her yard. "Well, yes, I guess I could use some help. Please come in."



11 Jordan didn't know whether he really wanted to go inside. "Anything for the bike," he reminded himself. Mrs. Radcliff stepped back and held open the door. Jordan watched her closely as he stepped inside the dark house. "Sorry it's so dark," she said, looking upward. "I guess that bulb is burned out."

12 Jordan wondered whether she was just trying to make her house scarier than it already was.

9. What makes Mrs. Radcliff's house seem scary inside?

A. It smells inside.

B. It is very dirty inside.

C. It is dark inside.

13 "Come into the kitchen," Mrs. Radcliff said as she walked in the dark. Jordan stood still, letting his eyes adjust to the darkness. When he could see, he noticed that all the furniture was covered with sheets. At least he thought it was furniture.

14 "Coming?" Mrs. Radcliff said.

15 "Yes, ma'am," Jordan said nervously, not sure what he had gotten himself into. "Anything for the bike," he mumbled to himself.



10. Jordan keeps repeating the phrase “anything for the bike” because he —

F. is trying to be brave

G. keeps forgetting what he plans to buy

H. wants Mrs. Radcliff to know he isn’t afraid of her

16 Then Jordan heard a **shrill** noise that sounded like a scream. The loud noise scared him so badly that he couldn’t take another step. He felt as if he were a tree with its roots stuck deep in the ground. “You’re just in time!” Mrs. Radcliff said.

17 Mrs. Radcliff swung open the kitchen door. The room was bright and cheerful inside. A teakettle on the stove was whistling. Mrs. Radcliff smiled, and Jordan was reminded of his grandmother.

11. Which words in paragraph 16 or 17 help the reader understand what shrill means?

A. sounded like a scream

B. bright and cheerful

C. take another step



- 18 "You know, I used to go to school with your grandmother when we were little," she said. "That was a long time ago. It's been a little difficult for me to do everything around here since my children moved away."
- 19 Jordan looked at the woman and smiled. "What kind of work can I help you with?" he asked.
- 20 "Well," she said, getting out another cup, "I always have a cup of hot chocolate this time of day. How about starting with that?"
-

12. Mrs. Radcliff's yard looks wild and scary because —

- F. she does not own a lawn mower
- G. she thinks it will keep people away
- H. she can't take care of it by herself

13. The author organizes the story by —

- A. telling about the things that happen to Jordan at Mrs. Radcliff's house in the order
- B. comparing Mrs. Radcliff with other people in the neighborhood
- C. describing what children say about Mrs. Radcliff



14. The reader can tell that Jordan —

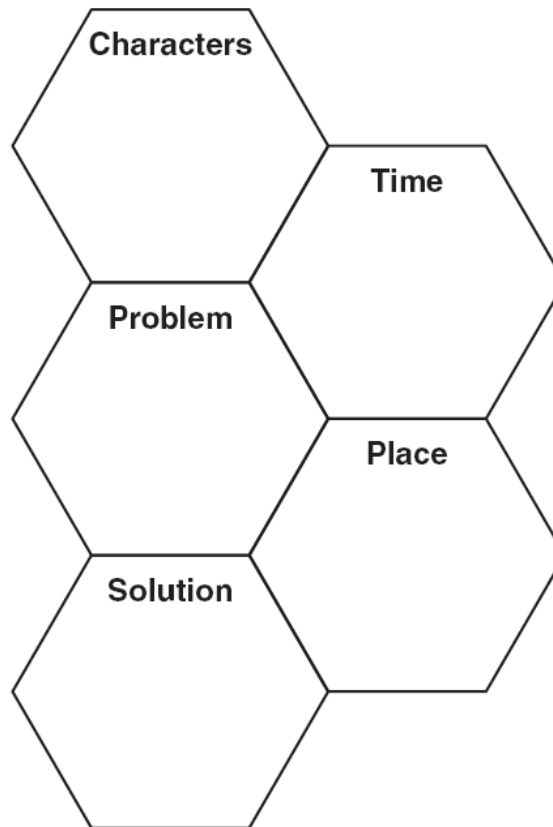
- F.** does not like being in new places
- G.** wants to show his friends that he is brave
- H.** has never met Mrs. Radcliff before

15. At the end of the story, Jordan —

- A.** feels more comfortable with Mrs. Radcliff
- B.** is excited to talk to Mrs. Radcliff
- C.** wants to do his work and get out of the house



16. Look at the story map below. Use it to answer the next question.



Which part of the story map should have information about Mrs. Radcliff's house?

- F.** Time
- G.** Place
- H.** Solution





This story is about a dog named Luke. Luke cannot hear because he is deaf. Now you will read about what Luke's life is like and how his owner works with him. Then answer the questions that follow.

Training Luke

- 1 Luke almost always keeps his brown eyes on his owner Kathy. When she raises her right thumb, Luke knows he's been good. When Kathy holds her right hand in front of Luke, he sits. Kathy uses hand signals to train Luke because he is deaf.
-

17. Kathy gives commands to Luke mostly by —

- A. patting him on the head
 - B. speaking to him
 - C. using hand signals
-

- 2 Training a deaf dog can take more time than teaching a hearing dog. An owner must use signs to communicate commands. Some owners use American Sign Language, and others make up their own signs. Like hearing dogs, deaf dogs should first learn to sit, lie down, stay, come, and stop. Other commands can then be added one at a time. Luke is just one year old, and he knows 20 commands!



18. Which sentence from the selection shows that Kathy is a patient person?

F. Luke almost always keeps his brown eyes on his owner Kathy.

G. Training a deaf dog can take more time than teaching a hearing dog.

H. If Luke is sleeping when people visit, Kathy asks them not to wake him.

3 To get Luke's attention in the house, Kathy stomps her foot. The dog can feel the vibrations through the floor. Outdoors, during daylight hours, Kathy waves at Luke until he notices her. If Luke is in the backyard at night, Kathy calls him by turning the porch light off and on. Luke also wears a bell on his collar so that Kathy can monitor where he is.



*Photograph courtesy of
© Walter Smith/CORBIS.*

19. Why does Kathy blink the porch light at night?

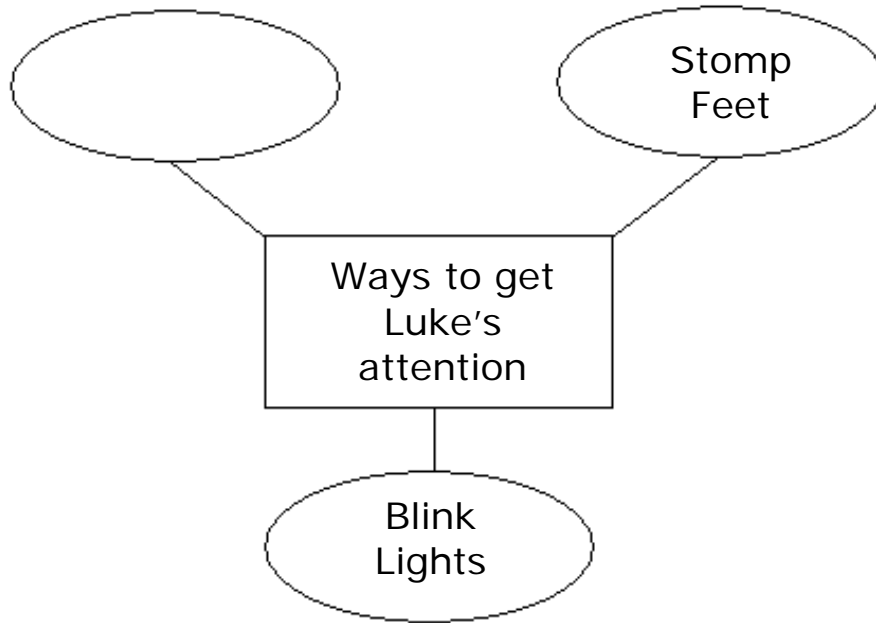
A. To see who is at the door.

B. To get Luke's attention.

C. To call her friends for dinner.



20. What would go in the blank bubble of this web?



- F. Wave hands
- G. Wear a bell
- H. Wear a collar

4 Deaf dogs can be startled easily. Since Luke can't hear someone walking up behind him, the surprise would often scare him when he was a puppy. To solve this problem, Kathy used treats. She would walk up behind Luke without his seeing her. After gently touching the dog, Kathy would quickly feed him a treat. That way, Luke learned that being touched **unexpectedly** is okay.



21. In paragraph 4, what does the word unexpectedly mean?

- A.** Do again
- B.** Without warning
- C.** Before eating

22. Paragraph 4 is mostly about -

- F.** giving Luke treats
- G.** ways to gently pet Luke
- H.** the reasons Luke is scared easily



- 5 It's also important to know how to wake up a deaf dog. To wake Luke, Kathy holds her hand in front of his nose. She lets her smell wake him up so that he won't be startled. If Luke is sleeping when people visit, Kathy asks them not to wake him.
-

23. Look at the chart of information from "Training Luke."

Signal Kathy Uses with Luke	Meaning of Signal
Raises right thumb	Good dog!
Holds right hand in front of Luke	Sit down!
Stomps foot	Pay attention!
Holds hand in front of Luke's nose	_____

What information belongs on the blank line?

- A. Wake up!
- B. Come here!
- C. Stop that!



- 6 Like most deaf dogs, Luke gets anxious if he doesn't know where his owner is. He'll run from room to room, searching for Kathy. Before leaving a room, Kathy makes sure to get Luke's attention. Sometimes Luke follows her, but other times he just sighs and goes back to sleep.
- 7 Kathy and Luke spend about 15 minutes every day working on old and new commands. With his tail wagging and nose wiggling, Luke looks as if he's playing instead of working.
-

24. Why does Kathy always get Luke's attention before leaving?

- F. So Luke will not get anxious
- G. To play with Luke
- H. So he can go with her

25. The reader can tell that Luke enjoys learning new commands because –

- A. his tail is wagging
 - B. he works hard
 - C. he works every day
-





The newspaper story below is about how riding horses can help disabled people. Now you will read about how riding has helped a girl named Claire. Then answer the questions that follow.



Saddle Up!

by Mark Samson

- Two years ago Claire was scared of horses. Now she looks forward to her riding lessons on Star. Claire was born with an illness that made her muscles weak and left her with poor balance. Riding Star has helped Claire's muscles become stronger. Her balance has also improved.
- Claire and Star are part of a program called hippotherapy. The Greek word hippos means "horse." Since the 1960s hippotherapy has been used to help disabled



Claire enjoying a ride with Star and Annie, the trainer

Photograph courtesy of © Mark Peterson/CORBIS.



children. The walk, of a horse can help a rider's muscles develop. A trainer walks beside the horse to keep the rider safe.

26. The information below the photograph is provided to —

F. give readers facts about Claire

G. explain to readers why Annie is a trainer

H. help readers understand why Claire enjoys riding.

- 3 Hippotherapy came about because of a woman named Lis Hartel, who loved riding horses. Hartel became ill with polio, a disease that made her unable to move her legs. Although she used a wheelchair, Hartel resolved to get back on her horse Jubilee. She made up her mind that she would ride again. She had to be lifted into the saddle, but the more she rode, the stronger she became. In 1952 and 1956 Hartel won Olympic silver medals for riding. Her success gave doctors the idea to put disabled people on horses.
-

27. After she got polio, Lis Hartel's first goal was to —

A. learn to drive

B. continue riding

C. win an Olympic medal for swimming



28. Doctors first thought of putting disabled people on horses after Lis Hartel —

F. got sick with polio

G. lost the use of her legs

H. won medals in the Olympics

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4 Every Wednesday Claire heads out to the stable where Star lives. After putting on her helmet, Claire is helped onto Star by Annie, the trainer. Annie leads Claire and Star around the ring several times. Then they move to the trails near the stable. This is Claire’s favorite part of the ride. She loves the feeling of being tall in the saddle. She feels as if she’s walking easily through the woods.

5 When the lesson is over, Claire receives **assistance** from Annie in getting down from the horse. Then Claire and Annie brush Star. Finally Claire gives her horse and trainer big hugs. Claire’s balance is so good now that she usually hops on one foot out of the barn. Sometimes she even jumps rope for Annie and Star. Last year Claire wasn’t able to do either of those things.

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29. In paragraph 5, what does the word assistance mean?

A. Praise

B. Help

C. Honor



- 6 Riding horses is also a great way to build self-confidence. Claire has learned how to control Star's movements and her own as well. She's also built a trusting relationship with the horse. One of Claire's dreams is to ride in the Olympics. Annie thinks she just might make it.
-

30. Which is the best summary of the selection?

F. Hippotherapy helps disabled people get stronger by riding horses. It has helped a girl named Claire get stronger and improve her balance.

G. A girl named Claire was scared of horses before she started taking riding lessons. Now she can ride a horse.

H. A woman named Lis Hartel kept riding her horse even after she became ill with polio. She won Olympic medals for riding.

31. One idea present in this selection is -

A. getting healthy

B. becoming the best

C. learning new things



32. Why is Claire able to control the horse?

F. she taught the horse commands

G. she has a trusting relationship with the horse

H. she has self-confidence

